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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Activities of the Rostock Volkspolizei
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1. The Rostock Volkspolizei carried out a practice march with combat equipment just before Whitsuntide on the Rostock-Satow road. Equipment included fatigue uniforms, belts, side arms, and cartridge pouches. They carried tommyguns, machine pistols, MG 34s and MG 42s; also two light antitank guns and a medium antitank gun. About eight hundred men took part.
2. The Rostock Fusilier barracks are overcrowded because the two other barracks in Rostock are assigned to Soviet troops. There are estimated to be 3,200 men in the barracks. A transfer of the younger Volkspolizei recruits to Rostock-Barnstorf will take place shortly. Forest workers report the Volkspolizei can carry out combat practice in only a limited part of Rostock Heath, because the greater part of the Heath has been placed at the disposal of the Soviet troops.
3. The Volkspolizei is calling for more volunteers. Propaganda is being carried on in the factories through the Socialist Unity (SED) Party and the Free German Youth (FDJ). Enrolled volunteers are inducted immediately upon preliminary examination and go mainly to the Guestrow and Schwerin areas, where there is still barracks space to receive them.
4. The Rostock Volkspolizei directs the marksmanship training of the FDJ, and since 1 June the marksmanship training of Rostock University students as well. The University students get two hours' training daily at the Rostock-Barnstorf target range. The men students shoot with carbines and the women students with small caliber rifles. FDJ officers receive training with MG 34s. The small caliber rifles are delivered from Suhl and are handed out for each "firing hour".

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